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6/13/16  
Grand Rapids Home

6/8/16

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My name is Richard Ference,  
I served in the United States Army

I have been trying for years to send out concerns of mine to the members counsel here at the Veterans home, but have not been successful in this manner, due to the lack of accountability that cripples our Veterans home, we demand answers! Gov. Snyder has replaced our State care workers with a private company that has performed miserably for years, & now plans are made to replace our RN's & LPN's through the same private company that screwed everything up in the first place. Our Veterans for Justice group tried to have a members group meeting on 6/20/14 in our All Purpose Room, but were told by Garry Davis, supported by Lino Preto & Jim Dunn, that members are not authorized to have this meeting and must leave!

Many of the caregivers that have worked at the Veterans home through privatization, stay long enough to get their feet wet, then leave to work elsewhere with higher wages & benefits. Members at the home have been hoping for a higher pay scale in order to keep the best employees, & they have done so! But if the care level remains to stay the way it has for the last three years or so, rest assured we will take time to visit our State capital to fight for proper care, & our pursuit of happiness. Having an advocate created by the bill that has since passed, should be the difference our members of this home & their families needed, since the past administration eliminated our advocates, to place any policies they wished to change. I have many other issues, in regards to my statement, but have not the time to put them together, and would like to speak to a representative or any one who will take the time to listen.

Thank you Legislatures for taking time today, to listen to our concerns!